

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 COA-02 EA-11 AF-10 ARA-16 EB-11

L-03 IO-14 SCI-06 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CEQ-02

EPA-04 INT-08 SMI-01 DODE-00 /125 R

66603

DRAFTED BY: COMMERCE/NOAA:PFOX

APPROVED BY: S/FW-COA:HLHEYMANN

EA/J- MR. LEVIN

AF/S- MR. KAISER

EUR- MS. SHIRLEY

ARA - MR. FAUCETT

EA/ANP- MR. LANGE

EB/STA- MR. WINSTANLEY(INFO)

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R 250001Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:EFIS, TBIO, SENV, OCON, AR, AS,BR,CA,DA,FR,IC,JA,UK,UR
SUBJECT INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION: SUMMARY REPORT OF
PREPARATORY TRIP

REF: A. CANBERRA 3047 B. TOKYO 6685 (BEING REPEATED ALL
POSTS)

1. DR. WILLIAM ARON, DIRECTOR, ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION, AND MRS. PRUDENCE I. FOX, FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OFFICER, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, HAVE
MET WITH IWC COMMISSIONERS OR OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF
FOLLOWING MEMBER NATIONS: ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA,
BRASILIA, CANADA, DENMARK, FRANCE, ICELAND, JAPAN, MEXICO,

NORWAY, PANAMA, SOUTH AFRICA, UNITED KINGDOM, AND U.S.S.R.
DISCUSSIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES WERE FRIENDLY AND CONDUCTED
IN INFORMAL ATMOSPHERE.

2. MAJOR ITEMS OF DISCUSSION WERE (A) 10-YEAR MORATORIUM
ON ALL COMMERCIAL WHALING, (B) STRENGTHENING OF IWC

SECRETARIAT, (C) REVISION OF IWC CONVENTION, AND (D)
POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES IF THE 10-YEAR MORATORIUM IS DEFEATED.
GENERAL SUPPORT FOR (B) WAS FORTHCOMING FROM ALL COUNTRIES,
BUT DETAILS ON FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS MUST STILL BE WORKED

OUT.

3. SUPPORT OBTAINED FOR 10-YEAR MORATORIUM INSUFFICIENT
TO ENABLE PASSAGE AT 26TH SESSION IWC. OPPOSITION BY
AT LEAST FOUR NATIONS ASSURES DEFEAT. RECOGNIZING THE
POSSIBILITY OF DEFEAT ON THE 10-YEAR MORATORIUM, THE

TEAM REQUESTED SUGGESTIONS FOR POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE
MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF WHALES. ONLY ALTERNATIVE
SUGGESTED BY OTHER NATIONS WAS TO ABIDE BY ADVICE OF THE
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF IWC. U.S. TEAM MENTIONED IDEA OF
AN AUTOMATIC MORATORIUM ON ANY POPULATION WHICH IS
REDUCED BELOW 50 PERCENT OF ITS ORIGINAL STOCK SIZE. THE
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TEAM POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS MAKING NO COMMITMENTS ON
ANY SUBJECT AND THAT U.S. COULD NOT PUT THIS ALTERNATIVE
FORWARD. NO COMMITMENTS WERE MADE BY OTHER COUNTRIES,
BUT FAVORABLE RESPONSES WERE FORTHCOMING IN MOST MEMBER
COUNTRIES. IN TWO CASES WHERE SCIENTISTS WERE INVOLVED,
REASONABLE MODIFICATIONS WERE SUGGESTED. IN U.S.S.R.,
THEY INDICATED INTENTION TO EXAMINE IDEA AND BE PREPARED
TO DEAL WITH IT AT IWC. JAPANESE WAS ONLY RESPONSE

IMMEDIATELY AND OUTWARDLY NEGATIVE AS REPORTED IN REFTEL B.
THEY AGREED HOWEVER TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL.

4. REVISION OR RENEGOTIATION IWC CONVENTION TO UPDATE
AND STRENGTHEN CONVENTION GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE. RELATION-
SHIP TO LOS CONFERENCE RAISED IN SEVERAL NATIONS MEANING
FINAL RENEGOTIATING CONFERENCE NOT POSSIBLE UNTIL RESULTS
OF LOS KNOWN. HOWEVER, U.S. DESIRE SEE COMMISSION EXPRESS
AGREEMENT TO REVISE CONVENTION AND ASK DEPOSITARY TO
COMMUNICATE THIS TO MEMBER COUNTRIES SUPPORTED IN ALL
COUNTRIES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF JAPAN.

FOR CANBERRA: REQUEST EMBASSY INDICATE U.S. WOULD BE
PLEASED IF RADWAY-ALLEN AND BANNISTER WISH TO REFINE AND/
OR MODIFY PROPOSAL MADE BY ARON AN FOX. DR. CHAPMAN
NOW WORKING ON PROPOSAL ALSO. GENERAL CONCLUSIONS OF
MEETING WITH JAPAN ARE GIVEN IN REFTEL B BUT FURTHER
DETAILS MAY BE USEFUL. JAPANESE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF
CONTINUED TAKING OF FIN WHALES, BUT INDICATED SCIENTISTS
WERE STILL ASSESSING LATEST DATA.

RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WHALING, FISHERIES MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE110363
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: COMMERCE/NOAA:PFOX
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740132-0688
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740517/aaaaaoui.tel
Line Count: 144
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN COME
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. CANBERRA 3047 B. TOKYO 6685 (BEIN, G REPEATED ALL
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 APR 2002 by kellew0>; APPROVED <29 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION: SUMMARY REPORT OF PREPARATORY TRIP
TAGS: EFIS, TBIO, SENV, OCON, AR, AS, BR, CA, DA, FR, IC, JA, UK, UR, IWC-1
To: OSLO MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005